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DeKalb County Extension Homemakers Association

1922-2002

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DeKalb County Extension Homemakers Association 1922-2002

IEHA LOGO

A logo is a symbol used to represent a word, group of words, product or organization. The logo was selected from several submitted for consideration in 1980. It was created by Coleen Allamndinger, Fort Wayne District Representative 1979-81. Mrs. Allandinger resides in Berne, Adams County.

The logo depicts the Extension Homemaker organization with a unique combination of symbolism:

The three figures depict the endless combination of Family members, representing male, female, adult and child.

The letters, IEHA, the Association's acronym, form an important portion of the home providing support.

The roof of the home extends beyond the perimeter of the design, indicating that the influence of IEHA extends beyond the family to the surrounding community.

IEHA FLOWER AND COLORS

An official IEHA flower and colors were adopted by the State Board in June of 1997. The yellow carnation was chosen as the flower, and royal blue and gold the colors.

80th Anniversary History

1922 - 1972

In 1920 the 19th amendment was passed, allowing women the right to vote. Many men were reluctant for women to attend farm organization meetings. The life of a farm woman in the early twenties was rough. They cooked and baked on wood or coal stoves, sewed all the family's clothes with treadle machines. It took a lot of nerve in those days for a young farmer to ask his young lady to carry a barrel of water every day. That task actually faced every farm woman, if she hoped to run her household in a satisfactory manner. Women's versatility in the twenties and thirties was severely put to the test.

Farmers had organized as a Farm Bureau. Farm women were thinking along those same lines. In 1922, a group of rural women met in Auburn for the purpose of working out a plan whereby the work of the average farm woman might be lightened, her mind broadened and her heart's desire for human contact satisfied.

All clubs in 1972 were celebrating the 50th anniversary with various dinners, teas, etc. The County had a May breakfast to mark the anniversary. For this event a history was written by Hazel Weicht of Franklin Township to celebrate the event. The following are excerpts taken from this history. Followed by a continuing history of DeKalb County Extension Homemakers.

A day in February 1922, the first County Home Bureau was organized. At this time 5 townships had already been organized.

Miss Lela Gaddis was State leader. Mrs. Stella Goldsmith was elected county chairman and Prudence Ratts was also an officer.

From the records come bits of information. In 1920 a Farmers Short Course was held in Butler, women were anxious to organize. One group met at Jerusalem Church and a club was organized in Franklin Township. Some ladies met in the Grange Hall and Jackson Township was organized. Fairfield ladies toured the township in a sleigh to get new members. Keyser Township was organized in Sugar Grove Schoolhouse. Newville met at Newville Center School.

The year is 1925. Richland members were very sensible; they decided to just wear every day dresses, that's an expression long gone. Mud was hub deep at Gleaners Hall one day and Lena and Dorothy Hissong had a rough time. Someone wrote down that Barbara Smith made good gravy. Mrs. Goldsmith gave a demonstration on Bursleys food canned pineapple.

Smithfield made program books typed in green ink on white paper. No records were kept until later, but there were girls involved in 4H in the various townships.

They made dust caps and aprons and patterns to patch overalls. (Does anyone every patch anything now?) This was a three cornered piece in the seat of the overalls.

Spencer club dues were 25 cents as was most clubs. Dress forms seemed to present a problem as they made them on the ladies and when they got dried they didn't know how to get them off.

Some of the information the ladies had during the early twenties was on good nutrition for farm families. Home furnishings was also being talked about. At butchering time the meat was cut and fried then stacked in crocks and hot lard was poured over it to preserve it.
From this came the idea of processing meat in cans. A lady from Purdue came to tell the women how to can spareribs. Flavor was much improved and much time was saved.

The year is 1928 and a little girl was born in the southern part of the county and I am sure that her mother never dreamed she would be county president when Home Bureau celebrated 50 years.

1929 all the townships were organized and project leaders were all taking the same lesson and bringing back to the clubs. This was the year of the crash and those who didn't have much even had less.

1930 Lola Carper was the county president. By 1932 Smithfield Township had a clubhouse, got dishes, chairs and an oil stove but in the winter they had to meet in homes to keep warm.

1934 Home Management was a lesson and 4H was started with Mrs. Harry Shull as County leader and the Home Bureau Clubs adopted the policy of sponsoring them. 1936 Fanny Boger was county president and county 4H leader.

Money was given to leaders to go to Purdue and take lessons to bring back to the County.

The year is 1938 and in January the Home Bureau presidents held their meeting in the commissioners' room in the Courthouse. Alma Deihl was county president and records were kept from then on.

There was a lesson on clothing and practical housedresses were discussed. The only materials to choose from were cotton, linen, wool, silk and rayon. Question of shoes was asked, could you walk a mile in those shoes, if so they are a good buy.

There were 324 4H girls in the county. Township trustees allowed $30.00 to be paid to 4H leaders.

County Chorus has been helped with donations and they now have uniforms.

Club camp was held at Winona Lake the first week of August. Mary Lenore Moore was the Home Agent, Stella Goldsmith was chosen to be state vice president.

A lesson on choosing a dress. You are to dress for your personality. Make over a garment, refashion a dress, you just wear it out the hems going up and down. Just cut it off and have a long blouse. Buy a basic dress to last two years, all-purpose that you can wear year round by changing the accessories with clips, sashes, buttons, and flower.

The year is 1940. The county had $296.00 in the treasury. Part was to be put in Postal savings bonds to draw interest, the rest in checking. Ida Miller was president.

One of the first muck crop shows for Northern Indiana was held in Garrett in November.

Secretary's report showed Stafford had the highest % of attendance. Butler Township had the greatest increase in members. There were 60 new members in the county. Achievement Day programs were started with the speaker receiving $7.00.

These were war years and homemaker's duties have increased because of the war. Suggestions were made to conserve many things. Slippers and mittens for children from old wool hats. Ways to hang clothes on the line so as to cut down on ironing. Meat alternates use chicken fat to season instead of lard or butter. Lessons; Eating well during war time, Mending and restoring hats. How to freeze meat, Washing upholstery and lamp shades. Gas rationing held meetings to a minimum. Sadie Krise was county president.

1945 Ruth Dilgard was county president. It was decided to print a county paper and sell it at Achievement Day for 20 cents, which was a family county Achievement. Each club was asked to enter canned food to be judged. Union won 1st on meat, Spencer won on fruit and Fairfield won on vegetables. There were over 300 in attendance.

1947 Sadie Krise from Wilmington Township was elected State President and the county honored her with a tea.

Lois Fisher was camp director at Lake Webster for a three-day camp. Grace Laub was county president.

1948 Achievement Day was held at Butler gym (these were always an all day meeting). The junior class served box lunches.

Harriet Baker and Lois Fisher presented a style show, and a representative from McCall patterns also spoke. A runway was built by Mildred Coll, Mae Mutzfeld, Ethel McCleary. Models were Donna Eckhert, Donna Davis, Genevive Gushaw, Wilma Bard, Margaret Bartels, Onalee Knox, Phyllis Buttermore and Eloise Vachon. Cost was 25 cents.

County program books were printed. Mildred Grogg was county president. Garden and poultry schools were held annually. Egg shows were held with judging on noodles, cakes colored eggs etc. Garden tours were also held throughout the county.

1951 the name is now officially Home Demonstration Club. DeKalb County Chorus went to Washington to be in the national Home Economics Festival. Several new clubs were organized and many town members were joining the township clubs. A model business meeting was demonstrated and the lesson taught to township clubs.

Kitchen tours were held with new ideas on improving our homemaking accomplishments.

It was hoped that roadside parks could be started in the county with clubs giving money for them.

A tea set was given to the township with the highest average attendance during their regularly meetings; if the club won 3 consecutive years, they were allowed to keep the set. Concord Jr. won the honor.

The year is 1952 and it was a busy year. Ruth Teutsch is county president. Officer training was held, leader training school, county extension meetings, project lessons and craft day.

No money was available for fair booths so each club was asked to pay their own expenses so there will be fair booths from each club.

Achievement Day to be held at the Court Theater with activities from each club to be given as the entertainment. Potluck dinner at noon.

Mary Lenore Moore announced her marriage and retirement.

Lessons given that year were on soaps and detergents, growing old gracefully. I may be over the hill but I refuse to lay down and roll the rest of the way.

The year is 1953. County teas were held instead of picnics. Blood mobiles were now in the towns and the clubs furnished cookies, juice and sandwiches to those who donated and a meal to the staff. Grace Laub was a state officer this year.

Purdue presented a lesson on county and state government. He stated it's not the office holder but the things they do that cost money. He reported costs never go down because of our increasing population. I'll bet he never thought they would go up so drastic.

Ada Farrington was president the year of 1954. Council meetings were held 4 times a year with each club to have a representative present. Special leaders who gave reports at council meeting were Roadside Council, Health and Safety, Poultry, Garden, Fashion Outlook and Food Preservation. A county cookbook was made this year. Ener-Jets made hats this year, also. Crafts done in 1955 were copper and glass etching, basket weaving, pictures of seeds. Building fund started this year and by 1958 there was $3,273.68. Ernie Lesiuk was the Extension Agent and during the times there was no home agent he donned an apron and done whatever he could to help the ladies.

1958 Egg show held with centerpieces, fancy cakes, decorated Easter eggs, desserts made from eggs and prizes awarded.

Gifts were given to 4H girls. 10-year girls receive sterling bracelets. Isabelle McClellan is the home agent. County rummage sales were started, bake sale held at the fair, banquet held for 4H leaders. Edna Perkins was county president. Roadside Council is suggesting that all roads in the county should have numbers.

Polio shots are now a state wide preventative method and all club members were urged to have them.

Beginning in 1960, Bessie Dunn was president and the collection of pennies for the international fund to be used as follow: pennies for friendship, and exchange program and an International Farm Youth Exchange program. Wee Haven received $238 from 16 county clubs.

The new Exhibit Hall was voted on and will be built at a cost of $17,967. Officers to preserve the building were President, Cecil Fitch; Vice President, Mart Saxer; and Secretary Marilyn Craig.

Clarice Hodges is president in 1962. Grabill Cabinet was paid $411 for new cabinets in the Exhibit Hall.

Pat Young, Home Agent explained 1 and 10 year goals. Points to be given for certain accomplishments. Each club to have goals.

1963 Home Demonstration Council is to purchase equipment for the Exhibit Hall; there is $428.95 in the fund. Ernie Lesuick left DeKalb County. The year's programs included: Quick meals for freezing, hamburger dishes, do we need to take vitamins, public speaking, and making a will. Vivian Ball, health and safety leader, gave a report on the new DeKalb Memorial Hospital and the 20 patients there.

1964. It was suggested that each club be responsible for cleaning the Exhibit Hall and points will be given. County scrapbook to be taken to Conference for display. Paula Slentz was president.

Treasurer reported $463 in checking, $1265.59 in savings and 599.50 in the building fund. Jean Zimmerman, home agent came to DeKalb County

Indiana Home Demonstration changed their name to Indiana Extension Homemakers Association in 1966.

Onalee Moughler, county president in 1968, probably considered a member at a younger age than anyone. Her mother, Gail Knox attended the meetings in Troy Township when Onalee was only a few weeks old. Janitor was hired to clean the Exhibit Hall. County club dues raised from 25cents to 40 cents.

1970. The theme for the year was "Those who care want to share" This was a year of education. Effibel McCann is county president. June Bartels won a first place at the State Fair sewing contest. Considerable redecorating was done at the exhibit hall. Sue Calvin, home agent left DeKalb County and was replaced by Barbara Lake.

The year is 1972 and it is the 50^{thr} anniversary for our organization. Marcella Fuller is county president. The county planned a trip to the Covered Bridge Festival at Rockville, Indiana. Diabetes screening was held with 750 people checked under the direction of Pat Hess. Fair booths were set up as they had been in past years. Achievement Night closed the year.

CONTINUING HISTORY OF DEKALB EXTENSTION HOMEMAKERS FROM 1972 TO PRESENT

In 1972 there were 38 Extension Homemakers Clubs in the county. Some of those listed in the following years were Young Moderns, Lucky Stars, Joy Belles, So-journers, Sunshine Express, Holly Hobbies, Nur Fur Uns, Patchwork Pals, Worth Whyle, Modern Mrs., Jolly Janes, Hoppin Homemakers, Creative Crafters, Sew Crazy, Reflections, Vienna Joes, Egg Beaters Ambassadors, Spencer Bells, Garrett Homemakers and township clubs were Butler, Fairfield, Franklin, Jackson, Newville, Richland, Smithfield, and Union, which are no longer active clubs
Information not available for all clubs
During the 80's and 90's some of the township clubs became inactive. Some hi lites from, inactive clubs was taken from the county scrap book.
FAIRFIELD
They celebrated their 65th anniversary in 1987. One year they sponsored a Korean child. 1988 Hazel Sutherland Norden was named Homemaker of the year from their club.

In 1986. Charter members honored were, Pearl Smith and Sophia Chrisman.

FRANKLIN

Hazel Kaufman was listed as a charter member in 1986. They visited the DeKalb County Home on numerous occasions to visit with the residents.ere. Memorial in 1986 for Marion Eck and Alice Houlton and 48 members who had passed on since being organized in 1921

JACKSON

Organized in May 1921. First cookbook lists 104 members, 16 junior members and three associate members. They celebrated their 65th anniversary at Meadowhaven Nursing Home in 1986. Those present were Alice Ferguson, hostess, Ethel Davis (charter member), Lola Schlatter, Georgia Harig, Agnes Watson, Jean Surface, Nelda Magnuson, and Velma Gerig.

Excerpt from poem written by Donna Bailey for celebration

65 years ago this club was formed
A few young ladies to start it off.
It was a nice friendly way to learn
The Homemaking talents and changing ways
And pave a way for a better day.
So congratulations on our 65 years
Each will give three cheers
One for ladies who started our club
One for members who are now about
One for future members
May it last forever.

NEWVILLE

Bernice Wilder, from the club was honored as Homemaker of the Year in 1992. Margaret Stomberg, president of Newville Township club and later County President, organized the Vienna Joes club, which took their name from the Vienna Academy, which was an educational facility in Newville. When they disbanded, they gave the balance in their treasury of $300.00+ to the County Extension.

RICHLAND

1984 the club gave money to the Little League Ball Park.

SPENCER

In 1918 there was a Home Economics Club organized in Spencer Township by Stella Goldsmith who later in 1922 organized the County Clubs. Early lessons were dress forms, rug making, master pieces by famous artists, altering dress patterns, candy making, and drapery selection. Some trips

taken in the early 40's were to Kellogg's, Battle Creek, Michigan and Toledo Zoo, and Radio Station WOWO.

SO JOURNERS

They planned Achievement night and the entertainment was the Classic City Chords.

In 1986, they listed their activities as crafts, money making projects trips and caring and sharing in the community.

SPENCER BELLES

1994 Spencer Belles entertained the Ambassador club with a Luau, Pam Ridgway demonstrated flower pot refrigerator magnets. They also had an amusing style show with a moo moo dress, box pleats with real boxes, bell bottoms with real bells, calendar dress made with calendars, and sack dress with paper bags to name a few.

SUNBEAMS 1975-2001

Sunbeams club was chartered in 1975 with 10 members. Through the years they stayed at 10-15 members. We had both evening and day time meetings. Community projects included Bloodmobile, instrumental in setting up the Garett-Keyser-Butler Parent Teacher Organization, sponsored trophies for 4H rabbit club.

Money making included selling Elephant Ears at Garrett Heritage Days, garage and bake sales, pound auctions, end of season garden sales, numerous trips. Husbands were guests twice a year.

Terry Maldeny won the DeKalb County Flag contest sponsored by the County Extension Homemakers. Ann Wagner and Joan Benz, who were dubbed the Betsy Ross's of the day, sewed the flag.

At the time we were no long with Extension, we had 11 members from Auburn, rural Garrett and Auburn, most of us over 60.

SMITHFIELD

History of Needlework Guild given in 1964 and free will offering taken for work in Alaska. Lesson given on False Advertising. Dinner served for Lions Club Father Daughter banquet. 1984 they supported as their goals Needlework Guild and PreSchool for the Handicapped.

STAFFORD

Had a craft day for members in 1985. They celebrated their 60th anniversary at Meadowhaven Nursing Home in 1986. Charter members present were, Mildred Coll, Majel Moughler and Ruth Miller. Ruth Teusch, was county president from this club.

UNION

1984 2 members went to Europe: Lois Smith and her husband, John, and Wanda Heffley.

2002
Histories sent in by clubs active in the 80th year of Extension Homemakers in DeKalb County.

AUBURN HOME
Auburn Home Demonstration Club, the 25th in DeKalb County and the second town club, was organized February 6th, 1954. Isabelle McClellan was the home agent.

Charter members were: Geraldine (Peg) Boyd, Vivienne Guinn, Lucille Hardy, Mable Link, Kathryn Provines, Margaret McComas, Anna Shroyer and Dorothey Shugart. The red rose was selected as the club flower and red as the club color.

Membership was closed in 1954 and names were placed on a waiting list. Members with three consecutive unexcused absences were dropped from the membership and then the prospective member at the top of the waiting list was notified and had two weeks to reply. Due to Equal Opportunity this can no longer be done. Meetings were held in various public buildings. In 1960 the club started meeting in the homes of members.

Many craft lesson were available and members spent enjoyable hours on such crafts as copper tooling, etched and hammer aluminum trays, basket weaving, glove making, chair caning, millinery, smocked pillows, rickrack jewelry, huck weaving, glass etching, Pennsylvania Dutch painting, textile painting, ceramics, wood fiber flowers, cake decorating, shoe lace purses, silhouette plates, mosaic tile trivets, wire wall plaques, feather trees, wooden plates with colored design, and shellacked wooden wall plaques.

Community service projects have been an important part of our program. The following are some that we have contributed either time or money to: Needlework Guild, books to Eckhart Library and high school, Easter baskets for Wee Haven, puppets for children's floor DeKalb Memorial Hospital, teaching craft lessons at the County Home, Auburn Auto Meals, Inc., refreshments for Act I (local theater group), food or money to 4H banquet, finger printing in Child Safe Program, School for the Handicapped, Red Cross, baby bonnets for DeKalb Hospital, Christmas Bureau, brownies to Camp REYOAB, craft supplies to art teacher whose fund had been depleted, material for baby blankets for the Healthy Baby Class, Cancer day at Scott's, Daffodil Days, sew for Riley, pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House, DeKalb Mental Health, Senior Pak, blankets for newborns at DeKalb Hospital, donated to landscaping at Homeless Shelter

allowing a boy scout in Troop #169 could do the work and earn his Eagle Scout Badge.

Auburn Home sponsored one new club Lucky Stars.

In 1996 Martha Pitzer was Homemaker of the year. We are also very proud of out two past county presidents, Martha Pitzer, 92-93 and Kay Prosser 99-01. We are happy to be a part of DeKalb Extension Homemakers

CHARM & CHATTER

The Charm & Chatter Extension Homemaker's Club was organized in 1953, with the help of Extension Agent, Isabelle McClellan, and taken in the County organization at Achievement Night in November 1954. Ada Farrington was president. Charter members of the club that are still active are Mildred Kruse and Cleta Grandstaff. Over the years the club has celebrated its anniversary each year.

Community Projects have consisted of reading to children at Eckhart Public Library, teaching crafts at nursing homes and to other clubs at the annual Homemakers' Camp and at the County Fair. Members volunteer at RSVP and DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

Members have gone on many trips offered by the County and attended Homemakers' Conference at Purdue.

Something unique about our Club: Members have sewn clothing and competed at the Indiana State Fair. Members have served on county committees such as Tasting Bee, Achievement Night, Beat the Winter Blahs, County Christmas Party, and Homemakers's Camp.

In 1989 the club received an award in appreciation for their service to Extension Homemakers. Rosemary Moore was Homemaker of the Year in 1995. Two members; Rosemary Moore and Helen Stark of the club have been members for over 50 years.

Because of our affiliation with the DeKalb County Extension Homemakers, we have become better homemakers, community leaders and made many new friends.

CHATTER BELLES

The Chatter Belles Extension Homemakers Club was organized in 1957. Jennie Krafft was a charter member and the only one still active.

Through the years the club has maintained a steady membership with eighteen present members: seventeen are active and one inactive. Two members have joined from another club that disbanded.

The primary purpose and goal of the Chatter Belles has been education and charity. Each year a charitable project is undertaken, usually, but not always around the holidays. Needy families, homebound or the physically challenged have been helped. A nursing home resident, 4H, EMS,

fire department, County Mental Health, food banks, unwed mothers, and the Community Shelter are just a few that we have helped.

The Chatter Belles have taken advantage of the many and varied lessons and programs offered by the Extension Service.
Everything from how to give a lesson to meal planning, yeast baking, antiques, landscaping, care of fabrics to car care and many, many more have been attended and the information brought back to the Club. The fair booth project, based on a given lesson, was looked forward to, as it was a time of fun, fellowship and creativity.

The County programs such as Tasting Bee, the Christmas Party, and Craft Show have been well attended and participated in by club members. Most years one or more members have served on a committee.

A favorite anniversary activity has been to attend plays at the Wagon Wheel Theater and Civic Theater, as well as visits to museum, glass and basket factories, shopping and other places of interest in Northern Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

During meetings members learned from members arts like making quilts, terrariums, knitting, crocheting, and decorating eggs.

Many of the Chatter Belles are long time members. The first Homemaker of the Year award was presented to club member, Betty DeWitt. Linda Bassett was given this award more recently. In 2000 Linda Bassett was in the Exchange Homemaker Program and represented Indiana in South Africa. Several club members have served as county officers over the years. Hundreds of volunteer hours have been logged at local sites such as the food bank, library, hospital, Youth for Christ, museum and Heimach Center.

CHORUS

Alice Yarian was director in 1970, who passed the baton to Imogene Mavis, who held the position for 30 years. Membership in the chorus ranges from 12 to 25.

Chorus has performed for Farm Bureau, Historical Society, Kappa Kapers in Garrett, County Fair, Mother Daughter Banquets, Churches, nursing homes, Lions Club, Retired Teachers, Warbirds, Achievement Night, and various Christmas programs.

Every year in June our Chorus travel to Purdue Conference to compete. We join in the evening in the largest chorus in the World with over 900 from choruses throughout the state at the Opening of Home & Family Conference.

Our ladies sing with pianos that are "in and out of tune' at many locations. A keyboard was purchased to use at any occasion.

Our ladies sang at the funeral of Peg Dircksen, at the request of the family.

In August we travel to Purdue for the annual three-day workshop. The music staff of Purdue works with us to learn the songs that will be used at the summer conference.

Imogene Mavis was honored at Conference with the Patty Hunt Award, given yearly to someone devoting her time and talents to Homemakers Chorus. She was given a certificate for 25 years of service.

The chorus is in a growing period again as many of our members have retired. Voices of all ages are welcome.

Our present director Jennifer Gross has taken a teaching position out of the area and we are looking for a new director.

COUNTRY CHARM

The Country Charm Club was organized in the fall of 1954, with Charlotte Fee as president, Deloris Baird as vice president, and Roma Baker as Secretary/Treasurer. Roma Baker remains today as our charter member. Our name Country Charm was selected from the popular Country Charm Drive Inn at the edge of Waterloo. Dues were $1.50 books 25 cents, county dues 25 cents, and State dues $1.00. On the first anniversary of the club's formation, two county officers were present, Ada Farrington and Edna Perkins. They presented our club with a white tablecloth and napkins. Present at that meeting were two of our members today, Paula Slentz and Wilma Sherck, who joined at that time. Pat Williams, another of our members, attended the meetings that first year, but was not at the organizational meeting.

Through the years we have assisted with many community projects which gave us satisfaction, and also some headaches.

We took turn volunteering at the hospital, made floats for the County Fair parades, helped with bloodmobile, assembled fair booths, organized raffles, donated our time during Ladies Day at the Fair, prepared food and served at the Tasting Bee and taken many lessons. A lesson given by the old Roadside Council about "Outhouses" still has us laughing. Does that tell our ages?

Our goals have been active both within the community and our own club. We have fun at club picnics, sweetheart parties, traveling together, museums, masquerade, fashion shows, various shops, beauty salons, and many visits to Shipsy to find bargains. We can now joke about occasions that were not so funny when it happened, losing shoes, missing buses, chasing hats, flat tires, car break downs, and even hitting a deer late at night

are among some we can recall. Or dare not tell about. We once had a strange man show up at one of our Christmas parties??

In 1972 we started, (as a moneymaker) having garage sales. It must have been a success as we are still having them. Since 1973, we have had local community projects, the Ronald McDonald House, and the Riley Hospital as our main focus in charities given to.

The Country Charm Extension Homemakers are a group of progressive and always growing ladies. In 1977, some of our members expressed a desire to learn to play bridge. This has been a fun and worthwhile project to keep us sharp in mind.

Through the years members have moved away or left other reasons. Since 1976 we have lost two dear friends (Rosie Clifford, and Joan Owens). Two others have lost their mates. We have passionately supported each other through births, graduation, weddings, and sad time. Our unique variety of talents has unfolded through the years, like a puzzle fit tightly together. It has been a learning experience in which we, County Charmer's as always, cherish that one evening a month we can meet with dear friends and just be our self.

ENER-JETS

The Ener-Jets was first organized in October, 1954. In 1972 there were 21 members; at the present time we have 17. We have one charter member remaining in our club, Mareta Mutzfeld. Club flower is the mum and colors are gold and brown.

Each month we try to do something different. January is winners/ losers. The losers plan and fix a meal for our club point winners. February we celebrate Valentines Day, and have a white elephant auction. March is eat out, conclude with a movie. April is project lessons. May, we entertain another club; June, we have a barbecue, July and August are open; September, we take a trip; October is our International Food dinner. A country is chosen and each member gets a recipe from that country to bring to the meeting; November is our month to be thankful for all that we have been given; December we celebrate Christmas with Secret Pals.

Our club has been active in our community, participating in Butler Days, with a Pepsi booth where we sold chili dogs, also entered floats in the parade; we have had raffles during Butler Days Festival, handmade crocheted blankets, grocery certificates, baked goods and crafts. We have participated at the Auburn Fair. Our goals have always been to help those who needed help, volunteering whenever we can to the Red Cross, for blood drives, senior citizen activities, and donating personal care items to the elementary school. We sponsored a Christmas flag for the city, made smocks

for Riley, made blankets and other items for the county projects. A Happy Homemaker is a Giving Homemaker.

Our club song written by Janet Campbell

Now when an Ener-jet walks down the street
She is 100 percent from head to feet,
She's got that style, smile, that winning way,
And when you see her you'll recognize her
And you'll say
Now there's a girl I'd like to know
She's got that enerjetic pep and go,
So with smile and style,
You'd like to meet,
It's hard to beat an ENER-JET.

JACKSONETTES

The Jacksonettes Club was organized in November 1955. We had 10 charter members. They were Ruby Baughman, Barbara Bishop, Romayne Carnahan, Rosemary Cook, Leanna Friend, Naomi Hanes, Lois Kelly Dorothey Sponhower, and Evelyn Watson. We have four of them still with us; they are Dorothy Sponhower, Leanna Friend, Naomi Hanes, and Marie Sponhower.

Jacksonettes have been active in programs such as Tasting Bee, Christmas Workshop, and Achievement Night, Homemakers Day at the Fair, entertaining other clubs, friends night in May, and many programs from the county have been brought back to the club.

Several exchange students have shared with the club about their country. Chriara DeClipped, Belgium told about her homeland, and how amazed she was about how large our cars are and how few passengers there were in them.

Easter bonnets were to be made and worn to club. Had come as you are night. Wall hangings with "Noel" on them. We sold out and had to take orders. Lila Springer from this club was County President.

Toured Genesis Glass Works on stained glass windows. Doris Kray of Kray Orchard told of the care of the apple orchard. Richard Wesseth gave a program on his trip to Russia. He stated Russia does not have the variety that we do including food. Randy Fox and Dan Hanes gave a lesson on Highway Emergency Life Saving.

Trips taken include Chicago, Toledo, Valparaiso University, Sinclair Glass Works, Civic Theater, Bear Creek, Sauder Village, Botanical Gardens, Embassy Theater for Christmas Tree Show, Ligonier marshmallow factory,

Tulip Festival, Winona Lake including Billy Sunday Museum, Ronald McDonald House and dinner theaters.

Charities we have supported included American Field Service, Wee Haven, Homeless Shelter, sponsored a 4H child, Library, Mental Health, served Election Day dinners, 4H clubs, Heimach Senior Center, Pennies for Friendship, Youth for Christ, servicemen packages, and needy families.

The lessons and crafts, tasting bee and community things we do make life lovely, joyful living and helping others to move forward.

Jacksonette club song to the tune of God Bless America

God Bless the Jacksonettes
Extension Club we all love
Stand beside us and guide us
With our families, our friends, and our homes.
Education - Demonstration - Dedication
That's our goals
God Bless the Jacksonettes
Meet second Monday of every month.

LE'CLUB

Club organized in 1962. Joanne Dulle only charter member still in the club. Name was changed from Bloomin Buds to Le'Club in 1989. Charities supported include; Children First Center, Needlework Guild, Mental Health, Indiana 4H Foundation, Council on Aging, Cancer Society, 4H leader banquet, Fire victims, Drug Abuse Program, Christmas Bureau, Woman's Shelter, County Shelter, Healthy Baby, Ronald McDonald, Habitat for Humanity, Ft. Wayne Rescue Mission, Scott's Cancer Day, and Sewing for Riley Hospital. Some trips taken were Wagon Wheel, Wee Haven, Kellogs, Sauder Museum, Spanglers Candy, Eli Lilly, and Tiffin Glass to name a few.

The girls in this club have been together for many years and have developed close friendships. We truly share our lives together.

MODEL HOME

Ada Farrington, a member of Richland Township Extension Homemakers Club, saw the need of the community to have an organization of the young homemakers in the Corunna area. Many young women moved to the area as a result of the end of World War II. These women were all nearly the same age and were eager to meet new friends and to learn the skills of homemaking.

The club membership was limited to 20 members and there was always a waiting list. The first 20 members had a total of 75 children. Members represented 128 homes during the past fifty years. At present the

age range of members vary from 30 to 81. The membership is a mixture of professional women, serving in various workplaces and several retirees. During the first years of our club none of the members worked outside the home.

County lessons were a top priority then and now. Kindergarten was not available in the school system so Model Home sponsored a Kindergarten for 7 or 8 years with help of the Christian Church in Corunna. The first year there were 10 children and grew to 28 the final year. A Model Home member, a qualified teacher, taught. A "Mothers Club" in a local school was organized by members to assist the teachers who were teaching 4 grades in one room. Wee Haven projects were sponsored by the club.

Moneymaking was realized in a variety of ways. Bake & rummage sales, White Elephant Sales, etc.

During the 70's a total of 117 educational both county and local lessons were given. Seven trips were taken and the one to the State House was especially enjoyed.

During the early years during the point system Model Home earned enough points to receive the Silver Tea Service for three consecutive years and the honor of becoming the owner. It graces our table at special occasions.

The club supported all the county activities with either members on the committees or the club members attending.

Some of the community projects were: Bloodmobile, Cancer, Mental Health, Save the Embassy, Scamper School (pre-kindergarten), and Red Cross. Club contributed to the expenses for the president to attend Home and Family Conference at Purdue.

Decade of the 80's. Four outside speakers plus the County Project lessons were all shared with the club members.

A Christmas walk was held at the home of a member and crafts were sold and we cleared over $1,500.00 with $1,000.00 going to Children First Center.

Decade of the 90's. Eleven local lessons were given in addition to the project lessons from the county were enjoyed by the club members.

Homemakers of the Year from our club include Maxine Harvey, Anna Ruth Haynes, Jean Brechbill, Flossie Cable and Roxanne Fike.
County presidents from our club include; Kendall Krehl, Maxine Harvey, and Roxanne Fike.

Maxine Harvey served as District Representative, State Secretary, Membership and Public Relations, the State Marketing & Logo Committees.

She also installed State Officers at Home & Family Conference 1999 and 2001.

MORNING GLORY CLUB

The Morning Glory Club was formed in November of 1995 when Extension Educator, Dorothy Marley asked a couple of ladies to form a morning club. We met at Martha Pitzer's home for our first meeting.

Along the way we have gained and lost a few members. Our membership now stands at 15 active members and 1 honorary.

Although a fairly new club some of our achievements have been making animal pillows and surgical dolls for Riley Hospital, story books for children at Gerig House, 51 bears for Wesley Health Care, Christmas baskets for the needy, bicycles for the Christmas Bureau, and have adopted families at Christmas.

We love doing what we do and have great times together and look forward to many more years together.

NEVER IDLE

The Never Idle Extension Homemakers was formed on March 1954. As of 2002, we still have four active charter members; Beverly Blech, Virginia Freed, Ruth Richter, and Janet Walker.

At the present time, we have 23 active members. We suffered the great loss of one of our members, Phyllis Walker, in a helicopter crash on August 4, 2001. She was a very active member and is greatly missed. Club has been a very important part of our lives and often we were out on nights that we should have been home due to the weather.

Some of the achievements in the past years have been; 1973 Doris Hamman was our county president. Many members have served on county committees. In 1983, Marilyn Buckmaster won first place in Cultural Arts with a macramé baby crib. It won first place at Homemakers Conference at Purdue. It was exhibited at National Homemakers Conference in Laramie, Wyoming and won a blue ribbon. Lola Phillips was homemaker of the Year.

Some of our charitable projects have been Preschool for the Handicapped, which is now Children First Center. Taken food to sick and shut-ins, Christmas gifts for residents at County Home, sewed for Riley Hospital, one year making 93 items, Ronald McDonald house with bedding and supplies.

Each year we take a trip some were Connor Prairie, Victorian Tea at Bryan, Ohio, and Candy Cane shop to name a few.

We have hosted the Fort Wayne District IEHA meeting, and participated with county events .

We will celebrate our 48th year in March 2002. We all look forward to our monthly meetings and enjoy the time spent together. We are proud to be Extension Homemakers.

ROLLING PINS

Our club was organized in 1966 with 17 members, as a result of a class offered by the DeKalb Home Extension Service.

The emphasis has always been to help our community and each other. One of the earliest community projects was in 1967 with the profits from a bake sale going to the Red Cross for U.S. Vietnam Soldier supplies. 1972, we sponsored a number of community projects with help going to a family in our community whose daughter was born with a physical handicap. We ended the year with a Bridal Fashion Show featuring wedding gowns from 1880 to 1972.

In 1978 we started a yearly fall project of selling pecans in the community with the proceeds to benefit an "adopted family" at Christmas. It is now 2002 and we anticipate selling them again this fall of 2002. In the 23 years, 11,234 pound of pecans have been sold with a profit of $7,892.29 to benefit our Christmas families.

We have enjoyed many county lessons, and assisted with county activities. We presently have 14 active members and our club book is full of interesting things such as entertaining another club, silent auction, selling pecans, sewing night, county lessons, tours, supplying local school children with supplies through Children's Services with DeKalb Central Schools.

We continue to repeat the club Creed or Collect at each meeting and will always believe the greatest institution in the world is the HOME.

SEWING CLUB

Sewing club was organized on September 23, 1992. The first sewing club was called Sew Crazy Homemakers. Some charter members still active are Roxanne Fike, Necia Myers, Rosemary Moore and Shirley Johnson.

Some lessons given were Necia Myers using a pleater board for making fancy pleated collars; Carma South on trimming and decorating jean jackets; Shirley Johnson and Necia Myers offered classes for young girls interested in making their prom dresses,

Many fabric stores and Simplicity Pattern Company at Niles, Michigan have been visited.

Some later lessons have included tatting and threads to use, pattern making, history of buttons, stenciled tote bags with paint stick, and ribbon embroidery, fleece hats, tote bags, folded fabric flowers and leaves. A hand made silk iris flower made by A.J. Kuhn was chosen to go to Purdue.

Shirley Johnson and Roxanne Fike have competed at the Fashion Show at the State Fair. Style show entries in 2000 going to State Fair were Regina Roon, Katharian Kessler, A. J. Kuhn, Shirley Johnson, and Roxanne Fike. Club members have helped 4H girls in the "New Kid on the Block" future's sewing club and helped girls in making mittens and handbags. The girls participating in the Sewing Classes were guests at a meeting and showed their completed projects.

The Sewing Club does a number of things to support our community. We are excited about our club, learning new things in sewing, fabrics, quilting etc. our lessons pertain to sewing.

TOWN & COUNTRY

Ruth Teutsch, a long time member of Stafford Club, organized a new club of 25 young homemakers in 1953. At one time there was a waiting list to join club.

We still have 3 charter members, Phyllis Jennings, Ann Slentz, and Wilma Armstrong. A few years ago had only 10 members and with some going South for the winter. We now have 15 members.

We had two members who were county presidents, they were Paula Slentz and Onalee Moughler.

Town and County club and members have served on all the county committees. The year 2000 saw Wilma Armstrong as Homemaker of the Year.

Some of the charitable causes have been Human Services, personal hygiene items, paper products, worked at Scott's on Cancer Day, sold doughnuts at Butler Days, provide help at times of illness and death in a family, food taken to homes and to the funeral home, not only for members for anyone in the community.

We have special leader reports at club meetings. One of our members is a librarian at Waterloo Library and keeps us posted on new books.
We enjoy entertaining other clubs and being entertained. We have had local police, Peace Corp who spent time in Russia, numerous craft lessons, cancer survivors. Our latest project is making puppy pillows for Riley Hospital.

Next year will be our 50th. May the next 50 be just as fruitful.

WILMINGTON

Wilmington Township, club being the only active Township club which was organized in 1926 with 27 members at the home of Mary Imhoff.

Records show there were many as 50 during the early years. We celebrated our 75th anniversary in December 2001. A video was prepared and presented by Marcella Fuller with pictures reminiscing about the past years. A history book of our club including the 50-year history book was prepared and given to each member by Evelyn Ridge. Evelyn Ridge and Marcella Fuller were honored as 50-year members at Achievement Night in 1999.
We have had 3 county presidents from our club Fanny Boger, Sadie Krise who later became State President and Marcella Fuller.

We have participated in all the county activities as the other clubs and have taken project lessons and had special speakers.

Community projects have included 4H awards, Bloodmobile, Butler Library, Mental Health, 4H Foundation, Butler Days, and Senior Paks, just to name a few.

Our club has been a vital part of our member's lives and we are grateful to those who carried the banner in earlier years.

Kendra Freeman is the current CFS Extension Educator in DeKalb County. She began her job in June 1996. Her teaching responsibility is that of Family Resource Management.

An Extension educator provides leadership and overall coordination to the Extension Consumer and Family Sciences program. These responsibilities include program planning, program development, program accountability, volunteer leadership development, interagency collaboration, community development, and professional improvement.

The mission of the Family Resource Management specialty is to strengthen the capacity of individuals and families in gaining knowledge and skills necessary to establish and maintain economic security and a quality environment throughout their lives.

The Extension Educator is to support Extension Homemakers in carrying out organizational and communication tasks. Function as a consultant to county president and executive committee; recognize Extension Homemakers' accomplishments; teach Extension Homemaker club lessons; facilitate program planning; support leadership development and officer training; provide educational and subject-matter resources; write subject-matter material for newsletter.

Facts from Purdue;
1913; Indiana Home Economics Association was organized with 10 clubs paying dues. Mrs. Virginia C. Meredith, Cambridge City, was the president until 1920: From 1913 – 1920, presidents of the organization were staff members of Purdue University. In 1920, a woman away from the University was elected.

1929; much effort was made to interest women in the Home Economics Clubs and to establish new clubs.
1963 Celebrated the 50th anniversary and published "50 years of Learning and Service" a historical account of Home Economics Extension through 50 years. There were 65,200 members and 3,059 clubs.
1967; Home Economics Extension became incorporated within the School of Home Economics as Eva Gobel became dean of the school.
1981; A tulip poplar tree was planted at the State House, with a plaque designating that it was from the IEHA. There were 44,539 members, and 2,750 clubs.
1994; The Indiana Extension Homemakers Association formally withdrew from the National Organization after a unanimous vote of nearly 1,400 voting delegates at the annual meeting in June. Teddy bears for Riley Hospital started.
1995; Restructured state program to bring plan of action in line with mission statement.
1998; Linda Bassett was our Exchange Homemaker to South Africa. Started Project Community Project Support where each county can apply for a $500 grant to be used in their county. We received one of the grants.
1999; Began i-LEaD program to develop future leaders.
1998-1999 there were 21,225 members and 1574 clubs; 1999-2000 there were 20,132 with 1518 clubs; 2000-2001 19, 127 members with 1452 clubs.

Agents and Educators for DeKalb County were;

Ida Leninger, 1918-1919; Mary Lenore Moore, 1939-1952; Isabella McClellan, 1953-1957; Carolyn Durkes, 1958-1959; Patty Young; 1959-1963; Jean Zimmerman, 1964-1968' Sue Calvin, 1968-1970; Barbara Lake, 1970-1974; Marilyn Beal, 1974-1978; Elizabeth Keenan, 1978-1980; Cathy Whaley, 1981-1985, Dorothy Cranor Marley, 1985-1996; Kendra Freeman, 1996-present.

Web page for IEHA http://www.ieha-families.org.

NOTES:

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